

### REMARKS

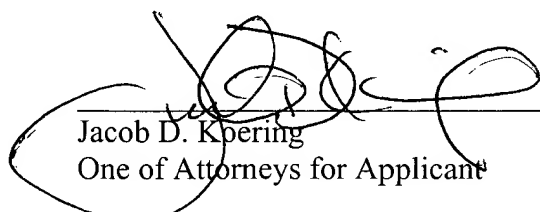
The Legal Instruments Examiner has sent a notice of non-compliant amendment, purporting to point out a number of errors with the present claims. Applicant has amended the claims above to include a listing of all claims, including the text of withdrawn claims, and included the proper status identifiers for those claims.

The Legal Instruments Examiner, however, has also stated that the claims were not presented in ascending numerical order. Applicant has reviewed the claims and notes that, as included hereinabove, the claims appear to be in proper ascending numerical order.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned, at (312) 226-1818, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
FACTOR & LAKE, LTD.

Dated: December 22, 2004



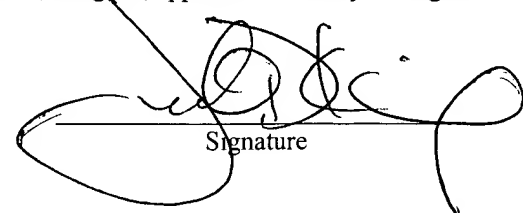
Jacob D. Koering  
One of Attorneys for Applicant

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 22, 2004

Jacob D. Koering

Name of Applicant, assignee, applicant's attorney or Registered Representative



Signature